Title: Urged the Government to take measures to protect the life and property of the minorities.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, it is very unfortunate and highly condemnable that a church was attacked and a priest was manhandled in Thane in Maharashtra. There is considerable resentment over this incident. There is call for a *bandh* of Christian schools in Mumbai on Monday.

Sir, in Ujjain, a nun was shot at and injured. In the recent times, particularly in Maharashtra, there have been several instances of attacks on Christians and Christian institutions.

I have only to urge upon the Government to come forward with proper policy and have adequate measures for the protection of this defenceless minority.

Sir, the minority question must receive due attention by the Government. The atmosphere is often vitiated by baseless and wild allegations, as a result of which we have such heinous crimes and violence. So, I urge upon the Government to formulate proper measures, to take everyone into confidence and to see to it that there is due protection of life, property and honour of the minorities.

Sir, here, in this particular case, the Christian leaders will have to be taken into confidence and assured of the necessary protection of their religious institutions and their religious personalities. Similarly, the entire question of minorities requires attention. In various States, we are having a situation, which is anti-minority in character, being indulged into by several institutions.

The Government must take a serious note of all this and take due and adequate measures.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Shri T. Govindan.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, it is a very serious issue.â€¦ (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.C. Thomas, please take your seat. If you want to associate with him, I can allow you. But if you want to speak on it, I cannot allow you. There are other Members also to raise their issues. I have to accommodate them also.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri E. Ahamed, please take your seat. Whatever your subject was there, that has already been raised.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, it is very important. It is about the minorities...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you want, I will allow both of you to associate with him. You have not given prior notice on it. How can I allow you? Now, please take your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA (NOMINATED): Sir, I also associate myself with what he has said.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right. Now, Shri T.Govindan.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.C. Tavhomas, I have called Shri T.Govindan. Please resume your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, he has raised a very important issue.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is the reason I had given him the floor. You can also associate with him.

...(*Interruptions*)